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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

2

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/689,831
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Filing Date	Oct. 13, 2000
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First Named Inventor	Nishibori
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Group Art Unit	1724
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Examiner Name	Fred G. Prince
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Attorney Docket Number	3170/2
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner
Signature

Incl P.

Date

	Not Considered	Considered
1. The number of people who are affected by the problem.		
2. The severity of the problem.		
3. The likelihood of the problem occurring.		
4. The cost of the problem.		
5. The time it takes to solve the problem.		
6. The complexity of the problem.		
7. The availability of resources to solve the problem.		
8. The impact of the problem on the organization's reputation.		
9. The potential for legal action against the organization.		
10. The overall risk to the organization.		

5/31/02

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Sheet

2

of

2

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/689,831
Filing Date	Oct. 13, 2000
First Named Inventor	Nishibori
Group Art Unit	1724
Examiner Name	Fred G. Prince
Attorney Docket Number	3170/2

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
FP		Search Report of EP 00 12 3225	
FP		Patent Abstracts of Japan - vol. 1996, no. 12, 26 December 1996	
FP		Patent Abstracts of Japan - vol. 1999, no. 11, 30 September 1999	
FP		Patent Abstracts of Japan - vol. 1998, no. 6, 30 April 1998	
FP		Patent Abstracts of Japan - vol. 1998, no. 10, 31 August 1998	
FP		Patent Abstracts of Japan - vol. 1998, no. 2, 30 Jan. 1998	

Examiner
Signature

Fred Prince

Date

Considered

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